

Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

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Kentucky Releases Action Plan for Energy Efficiency Programs

Could Save 1 percent of Electricity Usage for Consumers and Businesses

LEXINGTON, Ky. (May 15, 2013) – The Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet released today Kentucky's *Action Plan for Energy Efficiency*, a series of recommendations to mobilize energy efficiency in the Commonwealth which can ensure energy security, environmental protection, create jobs and maintain low-cost, reliable energy into the future.

The Action Plan outlines a strategy for furthering Governor Steve Beshear's energy goals in his 2008 plan, Kentucky's 7-Point Strategy for Energy Independence, and identifies energy efficiency efforts that are already in place in Kentucky.

The *Plan* comes after a two-year, comprehensive stakeholder process through a partnership with U.S. Department of Energy and the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance. More than 100 diverse stakeholders assisted in crafting the recommendations including utilities, industrial energy consumers, commercial businesses, homeowners, universities, non-profit and advocacy organizations, government agencies, legislators, regulators, and business and trade associations.

"Kentucky is rich with natural resources and a strong energy supply and energy efficiency should be a key component in our energy strategy," said Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet Secretary Len Peters. "Energy efficiency not only saves energy, but more importantly, it saves our residents money and benefits our local businesses and overall economy."

The Action Plan recommends the Commonwealth and other entities adopt policies and programs to capitalize on Kentucky's significant opportunity to save energy through efficiency programs. Key recommendations include:

- Expanding access to energy efficiency incentives for homes, schools, and commercial businesses:
- Statewide efforts to provide robust energy efficiency education and training programs tailored to Kentucky's residents and businesses;

- Establishing a loan fund to finance commercial and industrial energy efficiency retrofits; and
- Improving the comfort of homes and reducing energy bills through coordinated weatherization programs and increased resources for building energy code compliance activities.

The *Action Plan* will be a living document as the Energy and Environment Cabinet and other leading partners work collaboratively to implement the Governor's energy strategy. Homeowners, businesses, and manufacturers across Kentucky are encouraged to join the stakeholder collaborative and provide their perspective on the opportunities to use energy efficiency to the Commonwealth's advantage.

For additional information and ways to get involved, contact Greg Guess, KY Department for Energy Development and Independence, at Greg.Guess@ky.gov.

Documents from the stakeholder process are available energy.ky.gov.

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